at snail's speed and the money made available is hardly sufficient even to meet the establishment charges. Will the hon. Minister tell us whether this project will be completed and, if so, by what time? Secondly, will the hon. Minister kindly say whether the funds which have been made available, the funds which have been provided, are sufficient to make any headway in regard to this project?

Thirdly, I would like to point out that the number of general compartments in the trains is very small. Hardly one or two compartments are provided with the result...

श्री सभापति : कितने सवाल करेंगे आप ?

SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: We do not find many on our side. As a result of this, the general public is suffering. Will the hon. Minister approach this question only from the point of view of earning profits? Is it the view of the Ministry that the railways are a profit-earning organisation and not an utility service? Does it mean that...

श्री सभापति : अब आप सवाल खत्म कीजिये । यह सप्लीमेंटरी है, भाषण नहीं ।

SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: The supplementary is confined to what he has said. I am not saying anything else.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not supposed to put five supplementaries in one.

आपने पूछा था उधमपुर की रेल का, उसकी मैंने इजाजत दे दी है ।

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, insofar as Udhampur rail is concerned I need notice for this question.

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister has stated that none of the zones could be considered as uneconomical because the whole system as such has to be looked into. However, in part (c) of his reply he has said that certain zonal railways have unavoidably to incur operating losses. I would like to know whether these four zones have started incurring losses only during the last three years or earlier also they were incurring losses. Secondly, are there any other zones which had been incurring losses in earlier years but have improved their position in the last three years? If so, would you consider applying the same machanism to improve the condition of these four zones also?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, the answer refers to the last three years. For the earlier period I require notice.

श्री राम चन्द्र विकल : मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि यह घाटे वाला रेल का जो विषय है, बहुत गंभीर है । कोई ऐसी विशेषज्ञों की कमेटी भी बनायेंगे जो घाटा क्यों है, यह जांच ले और फिर उसका निराकरण क्या हो, इस पर कोई विशेष कमेटी बैठाने को तैयार हैं ?

श्री जार्ज फर्नांडीज : ऐसा कोई सुझाव इस वक्त हमारे पास नहीं है ।

श्री मोहम्मद अमीन : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि न्यू जलपाईगुड़ी से दार्जिलिंग तक जो छोटी लाइन की रेलवे है, वह कई वर्षों से बन्द पड़ी हुई है। इसकी क्या वजह है और दुबारा उसको चलाने के विषय में हुकूमत गौर कर रही है या नहीं?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I need notice for this.

Out-of-Turn Allotment of DDA Flats

*5. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the criteria for allotment of DDA flats on out-of-turn basis;

(b) what are the categories of persons eligible for allotment of DDA flats; (i) in the normal course; (ii) on out-of-turn basis; and

(c) whether any percentage of DDA flats have been earmarked for allotment to DDA employees and if so, on what basis such allotments had been made during the past 3 years?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) In the normal course, flats are allotted by the DDA to those persons who are already registered with it under various housing schemes. Vice-Chairman/Chairman of DDA have also been authorised to allot upto a maximum of 2½% of the total number of flats allotted during a year on out-of-turn basis in cases of extreme compassion & hardship and to outstanding sportsmen, defence personnel who have won gallantary awards, and other persons who have performed distinguished services in various fields of national life.

(c) No, Sir.

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: How many flats have been allotted on out-of-turn basis during the last 10 years?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I do not have figures for the last 10 years but I do have figures for the last 4 years. Out of 56437 flats 815 flats were allotted under this out-of-turn category.

DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: What is the policy with regard to the allotment of flats on compassionate grounds?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, this out-of-turn allotment has got a history. It started in the year 1970. The Baweja Inter-ministerial Committee which went into the working of the DDA condemned this out-of-turn allotment system. The Public Accounts Committee in its 18th Report submitted in the year 1980-81 also said that this out-of-turn quota system was not good. They also condemned it. But this quota system started in 1982 with a limitation of ½ per cent. Before 1982 there was no limitation. In 1984 it was increased to 1½ per cent and in 1985 it has been increased to 2½ per cent. We have to examine it from all angles.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, under the out-of-turn quota system there is a provision that women, particularly those in distress, widows and separated women, would get certain percentage. I would like to know whether this would continue or whether he intends to discontinue the special quota which has been introduced for women because accommodation is a big problem which they are facing...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Estimated Work done on the Konkan Railway Line from Mangalore to Udupi

*6. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of work completed on the Konkan Railway line from Mangalore to Udupi as on 30th June, 1989;

(b) whether the above work was completed only at proportionate cost; and

(c) if so, the details of the estimated escalation in the cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Preparation of detailed land plans and land acquisition proceedings are in progress from both Mangalore